



Each kidney is made of 1 million little filters.

What is kidney failure?

Kidney failure means your kidneys no longer filter your blood well enough to keep you healthy. Failing kidneys do a poor job of removing wastes and extra fluid from your blood. Wastes and extra fluid begin to build up. The buildup of wastes can make you sick. You may have the following symptoms:

- ankle, face, or belly swelling
- stomach sickness
- throwing up
- loss of appetite

- loss of sense of taste
- feeling tired
- weakness
- confusion
- headaches

What are the most common causes of kidney failure?

Diabetes and high blood pressure are the most common causes of kidney failure. Other factors include heart and blood vessel disease and a family history of kidney failure. African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, and American Indians are more likely to have kidney failure.



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